

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An operation instruction system comprising:

a device for causing a display device to display, in a display area thereof, an operation instruction picture associated with an operation object range defined in at least a portion of an input device;

a device for generating a visual change in the operation instruction picture to instruct an operator in an operation position of the input device; and

a device for changing a ratio of the operation instruction picture in the display area in accordance with an instruction from the operator.

2. The operation instruction system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of operation portions are provided in the operation object range of the input device, and a plurality of operation instruction portions, which are associated with the plurality of operation portions, respectively, are provided in the operation instruction picture in an arrangement correlative to an arrangement of the plurality of operation portions.

3. The operation instruction system according to claim 2, wherein the plurality of operation portions are provided to be arranged in at least one direction, and the device for

changing changes, in accordance with the instruction from the operator, a size of the operation instruction picture with respect to an arrangement direction of the plurality of operation instruction portions, said arrangement direction corresponding to an arrangement direction of the plurality of operation portions.

4. The operation instruction system according to claim 1, wherein the operation instruction picture includes a picture imitating said at least the portion of the input device.

5. The operation instruction system according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of operation portions are arranged in the operation object range in a right-and-left direction when viewed from the operator, a plurality of operation instruction portions, which are associated with the plurality of operation portions, respectively, are provided in the right-and-left direction in the display area, and the device for changing changes a width of the operation instruction picture with respect to the right-and-left direction in accordance with the instruction from the operator.

6. The operation instruction system according to claim 5, wherein the plurality of operation portions and the plurality of operation instruction portions in the operation instruction picture are associated with each other to keep a one-to-one

relationship therebetween, and the device for changing can change the width of the operation instruction picture so as to generally adjust a width occupied by the plurality of operation instruction portions in the operation instruction picture in the right-and-left direction to a width occupied by the plurality of operation portions in the right-and-left direction.

7. The operation instruction system according to claim 6, wherein an adjustment range of the width of the operation instruction picture by the device for changing is determined to generally adjust the width occupied by the plurality of operation instruction portions in the operation instruction picture in the right-and-left direction to the width occupied by the plurality of operation portions in the right-and-left direction with respect to a plurality of display devices with different sizes.

8. An operation instruction system comprising:

a device for causing a display device to display a picture imitating an input device in a display area thereof;

a device for generating a visual change in the picture imitating the input device to instruct an operator in an operation position of the input device; and

a device for changing a ratio of the picture imitating the input device in the display area in accordance with an

instruction from the operator.

9. A computer readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to provide an operator with an instruction of an operation to an input device, said program being configured to cause the computer to serve as devices for:

causing a display device to display, in a display area thereof, an operation instruction picture associated with an operation object range defined in at least a portion of the input device;

generating a visual change in the operation instruction picture to instruct an operator in an operation position of the input device; and

changing a ratio of the operation instruction picture in the display area in accordance with an instruction from the operator.

10. The storage medium according to claim 9, wherein the program is adapted to a case that the input device has a plurality of operation portions in the operation object range, and wherein a plurality of operation instruction portions, which are associated with the plurality of operation portions, respectively, are provided in the operation instruction picture in an arrangement correlative to an arrangement of the plurality of operation portions.

11. The storage medium according to claim 10, wherein the program is adapted to a case that the plurality of operation portions are provided to be arranged in at least one direction, and wherein the device for changing changes, in accordance with the instruction from the operator, a size of the operation instruction picture with respect to an arrangement direction of the plurality of operation instruction portions, said arrangement direction corresponding to an arrangement direction of the plurality of operation portions.

12. The storage medium according to claim 9, wherein the operation instruction picture includes a picture imitating said at least the portion of the input device.

13. The storage medium according to claim 9, wherein the program is adapted to a case that a plurality of operation portions are arranged in the operation object range in a right-and-left direction when viewed from the operator, and wherein a plurality of operation instruction portions, which are associated with the plurality of operation portions, respectively, are provided in the right-and-left direction in the display area, and the device for changing changes a width of the operation instruction picture with respect to the right-and-left direction in accordance with the instruction from the operator.

14. The storage medium according to claim 13, wherein the plurality of operation portions and the plurality of operation instruction portions in the operation instruction picture are associated with each other to keep a one-to-one relationship therebetween, and the device for changing can change the width of the operation instruction picture so as to generally adjust a width occupied by the plurality of operation instruction portions in the operation instruction picture in the right-and-left direction to a width occupied by the plurality of operation portions in the right-and-left direction.

15. The storage medium according to claim 14, wherein an adjustment range of the width of the operation instruction picture by the device for changing is determined to generally adjust the width occupied by the plurality of operation instruction portions in the operation instruction picture in the right-and-left direction to the width occupied by the plurality of operation portions in the right-and-left direction with respect to a plurality of display devices with different sizes.

16. A computer readable storage medium storing a program for causing a computer to provide an operator with an instruction of an operation to an input device, said program being configured to cause the computer to serve as devices for:

causing a display device to display a picture imitating the input device in a display area thereof;

generating a visual change in the picture imitating the input device to instruct an operator in an operation position of the input device; and

changing a ratio of the picture imitating the input device in the display area in accordance with an instruction from the operator.